

## THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

(ESTABLISHED 1872.)

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variably in Advance.Six months, 75 cents. No subscription for a  
less period received.

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are generally honest and faithful; but persons who  
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judges of their responsibility. The paper will be sent  
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Military, Agricultural, Industrial and Household  
matters, and letters to the Editor will always receive  
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THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,  
Washington, D. C.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., AUGUST 13, 1885.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.  
To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE.From the nature of the articles published  
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## VETERANS' RIGHTS.

The Veterans' Rights Union of Brooklyn did not give up the fight for the promotion of the soldier-fremmen of which we spoke at length last week—with the adverse decision of the State Civil Service Commission. It promptly applied to the Supreme Court of the City of Brooklyn for a mandamus to compel the Commissioners to promote Wan. J. Chiro and Patrick H. Travers—the veteran firemen who stood Nos. 13 and 15 on the list of those who successfully passed the examination—to the vacant foremanships. Justice Cullen, of the Supreme Court, denied the application for a mandamus, and gave the following reasons:

The contention of the relator, if conceded, would result that all appointments and promotions contemplated by the statute as the subject of competition should be filled by discharged soldiers and sailors, if there were such applicants who might be found qualified, and only in default of such applicants would such appointments be open to other persons to competition. However just or proper such a rule would be, plainly the Legislature has not enacted it. The construction of the statute here adopted does not render the preference given to discharged soldiers or sailors illusory. It will still be substantial. Both the statute and the rules under it contemplate the exercise of discretion by the appointing power among several of the applicants having the highest grading. The one with the highest standing may be passed by one and a lower standing appointed. But if a discharged soldier or sailor is presented for appointment, he must be appointed in preference to others having equal or lower standing. In other words, if his standing is equal or better than that of his competitors, he has the absolute right to the appointment, which is not the case with other persons.

Now, if we understand the meaning of a logical proposition, this reasoning, while it supports a denial of the rights guaranteed ex-soldiers by law, completely upsets the position taken by the Mayor and the Commissioners in their denial.

They refused to exercise the lawful preference and promote the veteran firemen, because they said the law expressly confined this preference to soldiers whose rating upon examination was equal that of their civilian competitors, and no discretion was allowed the appointing power.

As firemen Chiro and Travers stood lowest on the list of those who had passed the examination, the Commissioners claimed they were not of "equal standing" with those who had been numbered from 1 to 12. Consequently the preference could not operate, and the Commissioners were compelled to make the promotions from those who stood first on the list. We denounced such pleading as a perversion of the Civil Service law as well as a violation of the preference law, for it has never been contended by the strong-est advocates of the Civil Service Law that the rating given by the Board of Examiners should override all other considerations as to the fitness of a candidate. It has always been claimed that the object of the examinations was simply to present the appointing power with a certain number of competent men from which to make selections. Any other view would be preposterous, for it would take away from the appointing power a high constitutional prerogative and bestow it upon the Examining Board.

The Judge now comes in and says that he cannot interfere to direct the appointment of particular persons, because the whole matter is left to the discretion of the appointing power, which can range the whole length of the list and appoint the highest or lowest at will, without dictation from him. Of the two positions taken, Justice Cullen's is much the sounder. He recognizes the full force of the legal prescription of a preference to be exercised in favor of soldiers and sailors. Also, that, so far as the results of the examination are concerned, all who passed that examination stand on an equality. He goes still farther, and says that in the exercise of their discretion the Commissioners must be influenced by the preference ordained by the law. But after taking these preliminary steps very bravely, he seems to become frightened at the logical deductions from his own premises and creeps out of a very small hole by saying, in effect, that if there is anybody who is numbered after the ex-soldiers on the examination list, he must not be preferred to the soldiers! That is, if there had been Nos. 16, 17, 18 and 19 on the Brooklyn list, the Commissioners would not have been allowed to prefer them to the soldiers who were rated higher. Did any one ever hear such intolerable nonsense so gravely uttered?

In plain words, this is the customary juggling with sharp lawyers set out to find reasons for not doing something they do not want to do. It is a piece of leger "smartness"—of smug chicanery. The Brooklyn Commissioners set out to evade the spirit and letter of the law and to find reasons for doing what they wanted to do, and they imagine they have succeeded.

THE MONUMENT TO GEN. GRANT.  
As was anticipated, the New Yorkers are already finding it uphill work to raise money for a monument to Gen. Grant at Riverside Park. The millionaires of the city show their usual diffidence about coming forward in aid of the scheme. If the dead hero has to wait for a monument until the plutocrats of Gotham subscribe the desired \$1,000,000, he will be longer without a suitable memorial than the Father of His Country was. We need only remember the difficulty in collecting \$100,000 for the pedestal to the Bartholdi Statue to know how faint is the hope that we, or our sons, or our son's sons, even, shall ever see Grant's resting place at Riverside marked by an appropriate monument, erected at the expense of the rich men of New York city. We are neither a prophet or the son of a prophet, but we can safely predict that there will be imposing monuments to Grant at Washington, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and San Francisco long before one overlooks the broad breast of the Hudson at the upper end of Manhattan Island. The reason is that the money kings of New York have no interest in the city except as a place in which to make money. They lack the civic pride

that animates the rich and poor alike of other cities, because most of them have come from other places to New York to make their fortunes, and they intend returning to their birthplaces, or going elsewhere when they retire from business. An increasing number of them every year look forward to passing the last year of their lives in elegant mansions in Washington.

Nor can New York build any hopes on an appeal to the whole country for the necessary contributions. The people outside of the city are so little pleased with the selection of the burial place, as to be wholly destitute of enthusiasm about contributing money to embellish bits of New York real estate, and enhance the gains of elevated and surface railroads which carry people to the show-places. People will be prone to say that these roads had such strong pecuniary reasons for having the tomb located where it is, that they can well afford to raise a splendid monument at their own expense.

If the matter were in the hands of the common people of New York there would be more grounds for hope. We have seen how they finally took hold of the affair and raised the necessary funds for the Bartholdi pedestal.

The letter from Commander-in-Chief Burdett to ex-President Hayes, which we publish in another column, presents the common sense of the matter plainly and forcibly. There is no escape from its conclusions. Washington is the only place for a National Monument. No other idea finds lodgment in the minds of people generally. If any other place were contemplated it would be Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, or Appomattox.

Then the National Monument should be by all means erected by Congress, the cost to be defrayed out of the public Treasury. The whole people should bear—and will gladly bear—the expense of adorning the National Capital with a monument to the departed chief surpassing in beauty and splendor that raised in any land to any great hero. As Gen. Burdett very properly puts it, the G. A. R. testimonial should be a modest erection, such as befits the slender means of the mass of old soldiers. Gen. Hayes's suggestion is for a contribution of 10 cents from each member. This would give about \$30,000, entirely sufficient to raise a testimonial worthy of the dead comrade and of the Order.

The G. A. R. as an Order only knows Grant as an illustrious comrade, and its monument should be only such as will be erected by it to other illustrious comrades—Sherman, Sheridan, Logan, Kosecrans, etc.—when they shall pass away. The testimonial should be something unique—something differing from the customary obelisks and statues that we have seen in the habit of erecting to our great dead. The ingenuity of the comrades generally can be well exercised in suggesting such designs as will give a grateful relief from the hackneyed styles of monuments which are seen from one end of the land to the other.

## A REORGANIZATION.

A reorganization of the Special Examiners' Division of the Pension Bureau is now taking place and will be completed by the 21st inst., when the new order of things will reign. Under the old order the whole country was divided into 20 Supervising Districts. For instance, there were two in New York. In Pennsylvania there were three. That is, one with the center at Harrisburg, which comprised the interior of the State, while the District of Philadelphia included New Jersey, Delaware and part of Maryland, and the District of Pittsburgh included West Virginia. The whole body of Special Examiners in the field was divided up among these 20 Districts, and over each of them was one man called a Supervising Examiner, who had his headquarters in the principal city in the District. He mapped out the work for each of the 15 or 20 men under him, received their daily reports and the work that they had finished, reviewed it, and either returned it for additional labor; or, if it was satisfactory, sent it on to the Pension Bureau at Washington, where it was again passed on by the Board of Review of the Special Examiners' Division.

This system failed to give satisfaction in many respects. One of the main faults was that the Supervising Examiner had to establish what was virtually a small Pension Office at his headquarters, and between him and the other office much of the work was duplicated. He also had more work than he could attend to in reviewing, detailing and supervising, and frequently had to call in for the bigger part of the month one of his subordinates in the field, thus taking him from his own legitimate work.

Under the new system there will be but five Supervising districts, and these are as follows:  
Hudson District—New England, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna, Eastern Shore of Maryland.  
Potomac District—Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna, Maryland except Eastern Shore, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida.  
Illinois District—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Dakota.  
Missouri District—Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Indian Territory, Texas.  
Mountain District—Nebraska, Kansas and all the Territory West to the Pacific Ocean.

Every one of the Districts will have a Supervising Examiner, but he will be located in the Pension Office in Washington and direct the operations of his corps from there. The advantages of the new system are: It will give the office the benefit of the services of at least 20 additional Examiners. There will be a great gain in time by the doing

away with the delay between the headquarters in the field and the central office. The work being sent directly to the main office, it will be reviewed there at once, and its imperfections pointed out at once, and the examiners in the field directed how to remedy them. This must make an average gain of several weeks in the adjustment of every claim, and it is believed that greater effectiveness in all parts of the work will be secured.

THE GRANT OBSEQUESTS.  
The world has never seen so grand a pageant as that which accompanied the deposition of Gen. Grant's remains in the tomb last Saturday.

It is true it lacked much of the pomp of military display and regal magnificence of the coronations of Queen Victoria and that of Alexander III, and the funerals of Wellington and Napoleon; but there were other features that more than compensated for this. New York is a grander-looking city than London or St. Petersburg, or than Paris was at the time Napoleon was laid to rest in the Invalides.

Of all manner of display, except military and royal, there was much more in New York than in the European capitals. Then there were millions of people present, where lack of our present superb transportation facilities prevented such a congregation in London, St. Petersburg, or Paris. Added to all this was the simultaneous observance of the funeral in all parts of this great nation of 60,000,000 of people. No man was ever laid to his rest with such honors as U. S. Grant.

## WADE HAMPTON'S STORY.

"One of our Subscribers" wants us to publish Wade Hampton's story of how he and 600 of his Legion turned the tide of battle at the first Bull Run, checked the victorious advance of Keyes's and Sherman's "Divisions" (everybody but Wade Hampton knows that both Keyes and Sherman commanded only brigades at Bull Run), gave Stonewall Jackson time to rally his disorganized troops, and so gained the day for the Southern Confederacy. Our subscriber says that we "ought to do this in justice to the gallant men who fought on our side, to show how near they came to winning the victory." With all due respect to our subscriber, we beg leave to inform him that we shall do nothing of the kind. Wade Hampton's effusion is a characteristic piece of South Carolina bombast. It is never until long years after a war that we are likely to hear much of South Carolina's deeds in it. Then they grow in proportion as men's memory as to the real actors in the conflict grow dim and inaccurate. We are approaching a time when it will be seriously asserted that Wade Hampton, with possibly an orderly to hold his horse, and a casual "gentleman from South Carolina," armed with a shotgun, held at bay the whole of "the swarming hordes of the North," while the Virginians, North Carolinians and Georgians basely ran off and deserted their Palmetto champions. Gen. Hampton's article was not written "to do justice" to anybody. It was a balloon sent up in the interest of Wade Hampton.

NOTHING would induce Gov. Pattison, of Pennsylvania, to sign the bill to provide an honorable burial for old soldiers. The expenditure of a few dollars apiece for that purpose frightened his economical soul. But we find him leading in a movement to raise several thousand dollars to erect a chapel for a Virginia college which is noted for the number of officers for the rebel army which it educated. Gov. Pattison says that his object is "to promote better feeling" among the Southerners. It is wonderful how much more anxious he is to have the late rebels "feel good" than the old soldiers of Pennsylvania. "Good feeling," like charity, should begin at home.

Briefly stated, my reasons are:  
1st. The people of the whole country with almost unanimously look upon the burial of their best loved citizen and commander at the place now selected as unfit, and but temporary. So sure as we have a tomorrow, the Nation will claim her own, and in so doing will be the property of the whole people, under the protection and jurisdiction of the laws of the United States, and within the peace of the Republic, will fix his place of final rest; they will be reaching out of their own affections, as well as because of the wish of the dead, leave place by his side for her whose name, with his, will be inseparably associated with the great national monument will be erected. Because, as I believe, this thought is in the heart of the people, they will not with readiness open their purses in aid of the New York project; they will perceive that by however pretentious the monument may be called, it will come to be one of the many monuments to be erected by the States and communities to the memory and fame of Grant.

Steps already taken show that the local pride and purpose are at many points now active. Illinois, whose citizen he was when he stepped forth to serve his country's flag, has appointed her committee to erect a monument to his memory. The fact that the Government has directed the work of memorial. Ohio will remember that he was her son, and will be swift to commemorate him. The chief city of Missouri will see that he is the son of her soil, and in so doing will be the property of the whole people, under the protection and jurisdiction of the laws of the United States, and within the peace of the Republic, will fix his place of final rest; they will be reaching out of their own affections, as well as because of the wish of the dead, leave place by his side for her whose name, with his, will be inseparably associated with the great national monument will be erected. Because, as I believe, this thought is in the heart of the people, they will not with readiness open their purses in aid of the New York project; they will perceive that by however pretentious the monument may be called, it will come to be one of the many monuments to be erected by the States and communities to the memory and fame of Grant.

ADmiral PORTER has written a strong letter in opposition to a plan which somebody suggested—that is, to stop sailors' pensions while they were in the Naval Asylum. There is no sense in this in any way, because the Naval Asylum was built and is maintained by prize money gained by the sailors in the service of the United States. The Admiral says with entire truth: "A sailor's pension is given to him by law, and no regulation of the Navy Department can take it away from him merely because he happens to be a beneficiary of the Government for the time being."

THE Critic, the literary paper par excellence of New York, makes a suggestion that should have been made before and attentively considered. It is that Grant should be buried on Governor's Island. Certainly, if he is to be buried at New York, that is the place of all others for his grave.

GEN. I. B. TURCHIN, Gen. J. S. Negley and Gen. Josiah Given will attend the Reunion of the 18th Ohio, at Athens, O., Sept. 1 and 2.

## OUR HERO-SLAVE—ACROSTIC.

By L. N. CHARLES.  
Gone is our hero! O Nation, why mourn?  
Bathed in the blood of his noblest of men.  
Are ye not ready to yield up your slave?  
Now, unto God who reclaims him to save?  
Truly he earned it—his freedom, the grave.

GEN. SHERMAN does not propose there shall be any dispute as to his burial place. He said at Saratoga last week, "My grave is bought and paid for. I shall be buried at St. Louis, where my children are buried. When I go they can put me in there and drive a stake in to mark the spot."

THE number of pension certificates issued and signed during the week ending Aug. 10, 1885, was as follows: Original, 1,059; increase, 436; re-issue, 129; restoration, 52; duplicate, 35; accrued, 205; net of March 3, 1883, 10; Order April 3, 1885, 13. Re-issue same date, 3. Total, 1,931.

GREAT expectations are entertained concerning the Inter-State Reunion to be held at Beatrice, Neb., Sept. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12. It is believed that it will be one of the grandest Reunions of Veterans ever held west of the Mississippi. It is expected that Gen. Sherman, Sheridan, Hancock, Pope, Howard, Logan, Angur, Schofield, Miles, Hazen, and others will certainly be present.

GEN. FRANZ SIGEL has been appointed to a position in the office of the County Clerk of New York, where he will enjoy a salary of \$3,500 a year.

## OUR HERO DEAD.

BY EMILY THORNTON CHARLES.

Bear the great warrior to the silent tomb:  
Life's sleep is ended. Lay him gently down  
To rest eternal. The lips, whose lightest word  
Was a signal of command, a mandate given,  
Are stilled;  
The eagle eyes, whose fearless glance had thrilled  
And urged to patriot deed, the multitude,  
Are closed in dreamless sleep.

The giant mind, that marshalled mighty forces  
And sent forth hosts of vigilant thoughts  
To action armed, forestalling action,  
Hath ceased to act.  
The modern Hercules, whose massive strength  
Had moved the Western World of valiant men;  
Whose word had swayed its legion of peoples;  
Whose word heeded paths to loftiest achievements;  
The soldier grand—the foe of the cloudless brow—  
Lies prone and powerless.

A ruler wise and just, obeyed and loved;  
Honored by all the people in the east  
For whom "death had no sting," the grave no conquest,  
Hath laid the sleeper down.  
Revered by countless armies he hath led;  
Mourning by a million fraternal comrades;  
Wearing the laurels of immortal fame;  
Dead to the world, yet living in the hearts of men;  
In millions of hearts the "Old Comrade"  
In deathless glory lives.

His mantle fold about him, none can wear it:  
His sword lay by his side, there's none to wield it.  
Who fought for Union's life triumphantly,  
Now shorn of strength, lies in his Maker's grief:  
A world bowed o'er a grave, is wracked in grief:  
A hero's death! A Christian's fallen!

## THE G. A. R. MONUMENT.

Reply of Commander-in-Chief Burdett to Gen. Hayes.

HEADQUARTERS  
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,  
G. R. WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 4, 1885.  
DEAR SIR AND COMRADE: I have your letter of the 29th ult., referring to my published letter of the 25th and to your printed reply of the 27th. I note with concern that it still fails to refer to the fact that the G. A. R. is the G. A. R. to encourage their comrades to contribute to the building of a monument at the grave of Gen. Grant in New York. I have sought to bring this subject to your attention by your letter of the 25th, and to your printed reply of the 27th. I note with concern that it still fails to refer to the fact that the G. A. R. is the G. A. R. to encourage their comrades to contribute to the building of a monument at the grave of Gen. Grant in New York. I have sought to bring this subject to your attention by your letter of the 25th, and to your printed reply of the 27th.